EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

Region 5

NPL Fact Sheet

OLD MILL

OHIO
EPA ID# OHD980510200

Last Update: March, 1998

EPA REGION 5
Ashtabula County
Rock Creek

Other Names:
Valleycrest Landfill

19th Congressional District

Site Description

This site is located in the Village of Rock Creek, Ashtabula County, Ohio, and consists of two parcels of land referred to as the Henfield (three acres) and Kraus (ten acres) properties. Land use in the vicinity of the site is a mixture of residential, agricultural, and commercial/industrial developments. The site is in a rural village setting with the closest residences approximately 75 feet from the property boundary. Approximately 2,000 people live within a two-mile radius of the site.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL Listing History: Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 09/08/83

Threats and Contaminants

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are contaminating the groundwater underneath the Henfield Property and the Kraus Property. VOCs and heavy metals including lead were contaminating the soils near the silos on the Henfield Property and in the drum storage area of the Kraus Property. Studies indicated that the soils were principally contaminated with trichloroethene, dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloroethene, vinyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, ethylbenzene, and xylene, with TCE as the principal contaminant. Potential health risks exist through accidental ingestion of or direct contact with the contaminated groundwater until ongoing treatment is complete.

Cleanup Progress

Response activity at the Old Mill site began in 1979, before the site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL), when U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) found 1,200 drums of toxic waste, including solvents, oils, resins, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), stored on the two mentioned properties. By October, 1982, USEPA had removed the drums and in November, 1982, 80 cubic yards of soil were removed and a fence installed to deal with any immediate threat to the site. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed in August of 1985, to address the remaining contamination issues.

An extraction system was installed to recover contaminated groundwater from both the shallow

and deep aquifers. Extracted groundwater is pumped to a treatment plant located on the southern edge of the Henfield property. The treatment plant includes a holding tank that collects groundwater pumped from the extraction system. An air stripper removes VOCs. A two stage activated carbon column provides for additional removal of organics from the air stripper effluent. Treated water is discharged by gravity to an underground storm water drain. An additional shallow aquifer intercepting trench was installed along with two monitoring wells in order to address a VOC plume that was extending beyond the original area of concern.

In 1997, the carbon adsorption tanks were replaced by a new tank. Additionally, a Five-Year Review has been conducted and compliance monitoring continues. The site has been federally-funded with the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) currently in discussions with USEPA regarding a possible settlement and site take over. USEPA contractor continues to operate the groundwater pump and treat system. USEPA is currently negotiating a cost settlement with the PRPs that will include the PRPs taking over the operation of the pump and treat system. If the PRPs do not take over this operation, OEPA is scheduled to assume responsibility of the pump and treat system operation in August, 1999.

Contacts

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FENCE INSTALLED IN '84 IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE POTENTIAL FOR DIRECT CONTACT WITH REMAINING SOIL CONTAMINANTS RESULTING AFTER REMEDIAL ACTION WAS COMPLETED.

FENCE IS NO LONGER IN PLACE, SINCE THE CONTAMINATED SOIL HAS BEEN REMOVED, ONLY THE GW TREATMENT FACILITY IS CURRENTLY FENCED.

http://www.epa.gov/region5superfund/npl/ohio/OHD980510200.htm
Last updated on Thursday, July 08, 2010

Region 5 Superfund (SF)

U.S. EPA REGION 5
ASHTABULA COUNTY
ROCK CREEK

OLD MILL

EPA ID# OHD980510200
Last Updated: December, 2009

Congressional District # 14

Site Description

The Old Mill site is located in the Village of Rock Creek, Ashtabula County, Ohio, and consists of two parcels of land referred to as the Henfield property (three acres) and the Kraus property (ten acres). Land use in the vicinity of the site is a mixture of residential, agricultural, and commercial/industrial developments. The site is in a rural village setting with the closest residences approximately 75 feet from the property boundary. Approximately 2,000 people live within a two-mile radius of the site.

Site Responsibility

This site is being addressed through federal, state, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

Threats and Contaminants

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and heavy metals including lead were in the soils near the silos on the Henfield Property and in the drum storage area of the Kraus Property. Studies indicated that the soils were principally contaminated with the VOCs trichloroethene, dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloroethene, vinyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, ethylbenzene, and xylene, with trichoroethylene as the principal contaminant. These threats were addressed as part of the cleanup activities performed at the site. VOCs are contaminating the groundwater underneath the Henfield Property and the Kraus Property. Potential health risks exist through accidental ingestion of or direct contact with the contaminated groundwater until ongoing treatment is complete.

Cleanup Progress

Response activity at the Old Mill site began in 1979, before the site was listed on the National Priorities List, when the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the Ohio EPA found 1,200 drums of toxic waste, including solvents, oils, resins, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), stored on the two properties. Superfund emergency removal activities and enforcement action resulted in a drum removal that began in November 1981 and was completed in October 1982. Some of the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), who may have contributed to the contamination at the site, participated in removal activities by removing 580 of the drums. Under removal authorities, 80 cubic yards of contaminated soil was removed in November 1982 from a drum storage area of the Henfield property, and a fence was installed around a portion of the site in 1984.

Between August 1983 and December 1984, a Remedial Investigation (RI) was conducted at the site. In September 1983, U.S. EPA sent notice letters to approximately 30 PRPs giving notice of the RI and Feasibility Study (FS). On February 23, 1984, a CERCLA Section 106

Administrative Order was issued to a former operator of the site requiring the installation of a fence around hot spots containing hazardous substances. The former operator failed to comply with the order, and U.S. EPA installed the fence to limit public access to the site. On November 2, 1984, U.S. EPA sent demand letters to several PRPs outlining their liability for payment of all past response costs as well as any other costs arising from remedial activities at the site. Negotiations were held, but no acceptable offers of settlement were received.

U.S. EPA signed a Record of Decision in August of 1985 which selected a remedy to address the remaining contamination issues at the site. Since no acceptable offers of settlement at the site were received, U.S. EPA conducted the Remedial Action at the site. Cleanup actions included the installation of an extraction system to recover contaminated groundwater from both the shallow and deep aquifers. An additional shallow aquifer intercepting trench was installed along with two monitoring wells in order to address a VOC plume that was extending beyond the original area of concern. Upon completion of construction, a final inspection was held on August 18, 1989. The groundwater extraction and treatment system was designed to remove existing concentrations of VOCs and semi-VOCs from groundwater via air stripping and carbon absorption. Treated water is discharged by gravity flow to an underground water drain. The drain discharges to a surface water drainage ditch located near the southwest corner of the treatment building that ultimately flows to Rock Creek. U.S. EPA approved the Remedial Action Report on April 24, 1991.

U.S. EPA completed the first five-year review for the site on January 17, 1996. A second five-year review was completed on September 28, 2001. A Consent Decree was entered into the court on March 27, 2002, under which the PRPs assumed Operation and Maintenance (O&M) responsibilities at the site. The third five-year review for the site was completed on September 28, 2006. The review concluded that the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment. Institutional controls (ICs), as required by the ROD, are being evaluated as part of an IC study to assess their protectiveness at the site in the long term. Currently, a pilot study to evaluate Monitored Natural Attenuation is being conducted at the Site. Results of this evaluation will be presented in the next five-year review for the site, which is scheduled to be completed in 2011.

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Aliases

KRAUSE DSPL SITE
ROCK CREEK JACK WEBB
WEBB MR

Site Profile Information

This profile provides you with information on EPA's cleanup progress at this Superfund site.